

TRAVELSLOVAKIA.SK

Sharing the real Slovakia with you since 2003



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BASIC FACTS & INFORMATION

Basic Facts

Name: The Slovak Republic

Area: 49035 km²

Population: 5 397 036

Capital: Bratislava

Currency: EURO (EUR)

Language: Slovak (a Slavic language)

Time: GMT + 1 (Summer time April - September: GMT + 2)

Geographical Position:

Slovakia is an inland state lying in the middle of Europe. The church of St. John in Kremnické Bane is considered to be the geographical centre of the continent. The shape of the territory is lengthened in a parallel direction. Slovakia has borders with Austria, Czech republic, Poland, Ukraine and Hungary.

Climate:

Slovakia is situated in the northern mild climate zone. The average temperature is 8 - 10°C.

Useful information

Entrance to the Slovak Republic and visas

The Slovak Republic is a member of the European Union since 2004.

There are different rules for citizens of other EU member countries than for tourists from other parts of the world. Citizens of EU member states need a passport or other ID document to enter the Slovak Republic. The same is valid for citizens of Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, who enjoy free movement around the EEA (European Economic Area).

Visitors from other countries require a passport with at least six months validity on the day of arrival and in some cases a visa. A list of states whose citizens require a visa to enter the Slovak Republic can be found on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

The Slovak Republic entered the so-called Schengen zone in 2007. This group of countries have come together to enable people to cross their borders without passport controls. Despite this, a valid passport or other ID will still have to be carried at all times.

Insurance

Visitors from abroad are recommended to arrange their own insurance before travelling to the Slovak Republic. Mountain rescue insurance in Slovakia is obligatory. Insurance covers mountain rescue service costs on technical rescue securing or search action in the mountains. It is intended for Slovakian citizens, as well as other nationalities, who visit the mountains in Slovakia. Insurance can be arranged for one year or for a fixed number of days.

Health care

Medical treatment provided for a fee is stipulated by the appropriate Slovak regulations or by international agreements made between the government of the respective state and that of the Slovak Republic.

Voltage, sockets, and plugs

220 V, European norm, three-pole earthed plugs have two pins and a hole in the plug and one pin with two holes in the socket.

Public holidays

1 January - Day of the Establishment of the Slovak Republic
6 January - Epiphany (The Three Magi and Christmas Day of Orthodox Christians)
March, April - Good Friday
March, April - Easter Monday

1 May - International Workers' Day
8 May - Day of victory over fascism
5 July - St. Cyril and Methodius Day
29 August - Slovak National Uprising anniversary
15 September - Day of Blessed Virgin Mary, patron saint of Slovakia
1 November - All Saints' Day
17 November - Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day
24 December - Christmas Eve
25 December - Christmas Day
26 December - St. Stephen's Day

Opening hours of museums, galleries, castles and chateaux

Monday: Closed
Tuesday - Sunday: 09:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Most castles are closed during state holidays and from November to March.

Typical products and souvenirs

The usual souvenirs, such as magnets, book markers, postcards and calendars with images of Slovakia's beautiful sights, can be found in many souvenir shops and tourist information offices across the country. Dolls wearing traditional folk costumes are among Traditional Slovak pottery, majolika or keramika in Slovak, can be interesting for tourists as well. Decorated Easter eggs, called kraslice in Slovak, make a rather fragile but lovely souvenir from Slovakia too. Many kinds of traditional souvenirs can be purchased in shops branded as ÚĽUV - The Centre for Folk Art Production.



COMPANY PROFILE

Name: TRAVELSLOVAKIA.SK Ltd., Slovak Incoming Tour Operator

Established: 2003

Headquarters: Starohorská 14, 974 11 Banská Bystrica, The Slovak Republic

Phone: +421 905 594 240; +421 918 320 908

E-mail: lenka@travelslovakia.sk

barbora@travelslovakia.sk

Internet: www.travelslovakia.sk

Our company TRAVELSLOVAKIA.SK Ltd. is an incoming tour operator located in Slovakia, managing holidays for groups and individual travellers from all over the world.

Our company TRAVELSLOVAKIA.SK Ltd. was established in 2003, when unit of young people realized their long-time dream and began to develop the brand new company, which would be able to make our beautiful Slovakia visible for foreigners.

We are efficient, flexible and willing to help. Our greatest advantage is that we are genuine Slovak people who are able to offer clients a truly authentic experience of Slovakia's unique countryside, heritage and culture.

Programmes and services:

- Accommodation (hotels in Bratislava and in other regions of the Slovak Republic)
- Individual tours
- Tailor made tours
- Escorted coach tours
- Self-guided tours
- Spa & Well-being programmes
- Ski holidays
- Central Europe tours (Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Krakow)
- Transfers
- Guide services & interpreter



TOP TOURIST ATTRACTIONS



The Capital Bratislava

Bratislava, a city of half a million inhabitants, often called the Beauty on the Danube. The historical centre of the city is adorned by the 15th century Old Town Hall, the Primate's and Grasalkovič Palaces, of which the latter is currently the residence of the president of the republic. The symbol of rich history and a typical dominant of the city is the Castle of Bratislava. One can contemplate not only the magnificent view of the city but also the neighbouring Austria and Hungary, that Bratislava borders on, from its courtyard or the windows of the Castle.

Castles, chateaux and manor houses

Though a country of modest size, Slovakia is full of chateaux and old castles, some in ruins, others in excellent condition. Magnificent castles with impressive fortifications that remember the times of mediaeval feasts, jousting tournaments and numerous wars. Sightseeing tours of castle chambers and walks in the gardens are part of a remarkable experience. There are more than 100 castles and at least double this number of manor houses built in different historical eras.

Medieval mining towns

Since ancient times gold and silver had been considered a symbol of wealth and power. The throne of the Hungarian rulers was sustained by the royal mining towns where these minerals were mined. Walks through Kremnica and Banská Štiavnica evoke the era of their greatest fame and power.

UNESCO sights

Slovakia might be a small country but that cannot be said about the importance and the number of interesting sights found here. Three localities from Slovakia were inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage List already in 1993: Castle of Spiš and its environs, town of Banská Štiavnica and Vlkolínec village. In 2000, the historic town Bardejov was added, in 2008 wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area and in 2009 town of Levoča. Unique natural heritage of Slovakia is represented in the UNESCO World Heritage List by caves and abysses of Slovenský kras (Slovak karst) and by Dobšinská ľadová jaskyňa (Dobšinská Ice cave).

In 2007 the Carpathian primeval beech forests of the Bukovské vrchy and Vihorlatské vrchy Mts. in the east of Slovakia were added to this list. UNESCO Intangible Heritage includes Fujara- the most typical Slovak musical instrument, and the Music of Terchová – the “heavenly” archaic folk music characteristic of Terchová and neighbouring villages, typified by multi-voice singing.

Wooden churches

Specific samples of sacred architecture in Slovakia are the wooden churches. Their folk builders expressed the perfect harmony of the human soul with nature and the effort to disengage from earthly worries. Among the oldest are the Gothic wooden churches. The “articled” churches are other type of wooden churches. The “articled” churches are those built under the article of the law issued by Emperor Leopold I at the end of the 17th century. There is also a third type of wooden churches built in eastern Slovakia, mostly in the 18th century. First they were owned by the Greek Catholic denomination, later some of them were changed into Orthodox churches.

TOP TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Slovakia - A land of wine

Although Slovakia is not home to the legendary Mount Ararat, where Noah landed with his ark, carrying a vine, its winegrowing heritage dates back to the times well before Christ. Wine was relished by Celts and Romans, as well as Svatopluk, the Great Moravian monarch. Modern Slovak wine has its roots set deep in the past. Nowadays Slovakia's winegrowing territory is divided into six regions that are further divided into forty winegrowing subregions and 603 winegrowing municipalities. Each of the regions has its own specific natural conditions and distinctive history. Slovakia is a winegrowing and winemaking miniature of Europe. It is a country of unlimited potential for white wines and of surprising variations of red wines. It is a country worth exploring with a wine glass in your hand.

Spa & wellness

Slovakia has rich sources of mineral springs, many with therapeutic properties. The geological structure of the area is also the source of thermal springs used in spa treatment as well as swimming for leisure. Year-round operating thermal baths are located close to the Tatras, thus offering relaxation to visitors after mountain tours or winter skiing. Traditional swimming pools are equipped with modern amenities and offer wellness programmes - saunas, various types of massage, aromatherapy and hot compresses. The offer of spa towns like Piešťany, Dudince, Trenčianske Teplice, Rajecké Teplice, Bardejov and Vyšné Ružbachy includes new aqua parks. The spas have been modernised and are a very popular destination, not only for their therapeutic waters.



Natural sights

The beauty of the landscape is complemented by jewels hidden under the ground; caves and their wonderful nooks are such jewels. There are 44 caves in Slovakia; of which twelve are open to visitors. In Slovakia, you can explore caves with ice decoration (Dobšinská Ice Cave), limestone structures (Domica; with boat ride on the Styx River, Gombasecká Cave), as well as with extremely precious aragonite crystal decoration (Ochtinská Aragonite Cave) which is to be found nowhere else in Europe. Walks with majestic slopes on all sides, the sound of music in an open-air auditorium, boat rides on underground rivers - all these are experiences that add to the beauty of the natural landscape.

Discover Slovak nature:

- 9 national parks
- Majestic peaks, deep valleys and mysterious gorges
- Large forests which are full of life. The Carpathians are the home of wolves, bears, lynx and chamois
- The largest karst area in Central Europe with more than 6,200 caves and chasms
- Crystal clear glacial lakes, peaceful lowland rivers, a paradise for birds, the blue surfaces of water reservoirs
- Sand dunes and pine forests, natural travertine, formations created by volcanic activity

Unbelievable diversity hidden in such a small area. Slovak nature is not only picturesque but it is also rich in unusual finds and rarities. With their dimensions, the Tatras is the smallest mountain range in the world with an exceptional concentration of wonders set in deep valleys and sky scraping rocky peaks.

Slovak sea

Slovakia lies in the heart of Europe and that is why direct access to the sea is compensated by a large number of dams and reservoirs. Liptovská Mara was formed by the submersion of a whole valley and is now the reservoir with the largest volume of water (volume: 360 500 000 m³, area: 27 km²). As such, it is referred to as the Slovak sea.



BRATISLAVA HOTELS



Kempinski Hotel River Park *****

The luxury 5-star Kempinski Hotel River Park Bratislava is situated under the Bratislava Castle, on the Danube river bank within walking distance of the Old Town. The hotel is the part of the River Park - one of the largest projects in the city history, a complex of interconnected buildings. Hotel offers 231 elegant rooms and suites. Hotel restaurants and bars with contemporary design offers mouth-watering culinary experience and the most extensive wine selection. ZION SPA is the ideal place for body and mind relaxation.



Hotel Arcadia *****

The exclusive 5-star Hotel Arcadia has its home in a beautiful 13th century listed building directly in the heart of historic Bratislava. Just few steps away from all main attractions like Opera house, St. Martin's Cathedral, Bratislava Castle and Hviezdoslav Square. This 34-room property has been carefully renovated to maintain its well-preserved historic substance. All rooms and suites are equipped with individually controlled air-condition and heating, in-room safe, satellite flat screen TV, DVD player, radio, direct dial telephone, Internet, coffee & tea making facilities and minibar.



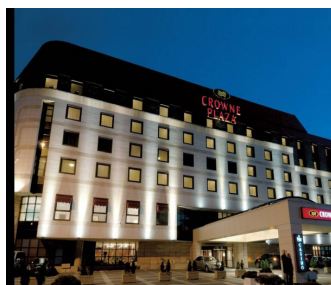
Marrol's Boutique Hotel *****

Marrol's Boutique Hotel is another 5-star hotel in Bratislava situated in the heart of the historic centre of Bratislava within walking distance (5 min.) of the Slovak National Theatre, The Old Townhall, St. Martin's Cathedral. Hotel Marrols offers air conditioning, latest technical equipment, Internet access and parking in an underground garage. Rooms feature air-conditioning, retro-style furnishings, bathroom, comfortable beds, safe, TV, interactive multimedia channel system, direct dial telephone, high-speed Internet access, mini bar, coffee maker, hairdryer, bath salts and oils.



Hotel Radisson Blu Carlton *****

The historical building of the Hotel Radisson Blu Carlton Bratislava dating back to 1850 has been fully reconstructed and renovated to the highest standards maintaining the glory of the old days. Located near the National Theatre and Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra's performance hall - with excellent shopping, restaurants and city sights nearby - this Bratislava hotel is the perfect base for business and leisure travellers. This four-star hotel features 170 guest rooms and suites with free high-speed Internet and other modern amenities, as well as a restaurant, bar, fitness centre and eight meetings rooms.



Hotel Crowne Plaza *****

A first class deluxe hotel is situated in the hearth of the city, combining the best central location (just opposite to Presidential Palace, conveniently accessible from the Old Town) with comfortable accommodation, modern conference facilities and superb cuisine. Newly renovated hotel offers 224 comfortable guest rooms and 15 suites. Each guest room features air-condition, SAT TV, high-speed internet connection, dual-line telephone with voicemail, electronic safe, minibar, bathrobe, hairdryer.



Park Inn Danube Hotel *****

The 4-star hotel Park Inn Danube boasts 265 modern rooms, including business rooms, suites and apartments. All rooms feature high-speed Internet access, flat-screen TV, spacious work desk and beautiful views of the Danube River or Bratislava attractions.

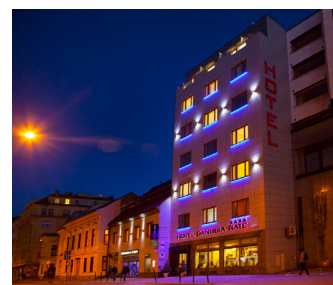
Hotel Holiday Inn ****

The Hotel Holiday Inn is situated in an important business district, near historical center of Bratislava and 40 km from Vienna airport Schwechat. The hotel offers 164 standard rooms, 2 standard suites (bathroom, living room, and bedroom) and 2 rooms for persons with disabilities with air conditioning, cable TV, radio, direct-dial telephone, internet access, mini bar and hairdryer.



Hotel Danubia Gate ****

A modern and stylishly furnished business Hotel Danubia Gate Bratislava is situated in the Bratislava Old Town, in the immediate proximity to the historic city centre (5-minute walk) on the Dunajská Street. All the interior premises of the hotel are strictly non-smoking. Hotel Danubia Gate offers 25 rooms. Modern and elegant interior of the rooms with an original combination of colours, furniture and complements will attract your attention at first sight. All rooms are air-conditioned, non-smoking and with first-class equipment.



Falkensteiner Hotel ****

Falkensteiner Hotel Bratislava is situated in the centre of Bratislava, very close to the New Bridge and Old Town. The hotel has a total of 162 modern rooms including 5 suites and 16 executive rooms. Each room is equipped with bathroom, high speed Internet access, telephone, writing desk, TV, video on demand, radio, minibar, coffee and tea making facilities, hairdryer, individual adjustable air-conditioning, safe.



Hotel Skaritz ****

Located in the pedestrian zone of the Old Town and on the most popular Michalska Street, downtown hotel in 600 years old property is an ideal starting point for all your business or leisure plans. Each of 20 guestrooms is designed to meet your accommodation needs in Bratislava. Hotel offers a unique blend of guestrooms, suites and apartments for tourists, business travellers or expats. All rooms have double beds which may be separated into twin beds on request. Hotel offers a unique residential ambience in well-furnished apartments for long stays as well.



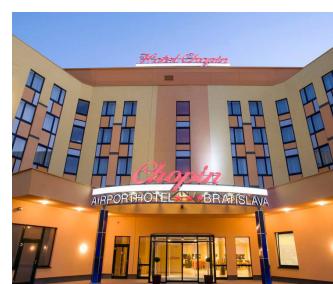
Hotel Premium ****

Hotel Premium is the new hotel with excellent location in business district, only 10 minutes by bus from historic Bratislava city center. Excellent transport accessibility, air-conditioned rooms, and family atmosphere. Restaurant & Lobby bar: air-conditioned modern restaurant with a wide range of a la carte specialties.



Chopin Hotel Bratislava ***

The 3-star Chopin Airport Hotel Bratislava, the first choice for business travellers and tourists in Bratislava, is located near the Slovak capital's M. R. Štefánik Airport. The nearby Galvaniho Business Park and the hotel's good conference infrastructure make it a perfect business hotel. Chopin Airport Hotel Bratislava features 174 modern and comfortably appointed rooms.



SIGHTSEEING TOURS

The primary superlative in Slovakia is the fact that it is a Little Big Country. That is because in a relatively small area the visitor can find almost everything - natural wealth, historical monuments, entertainment and leisure activities. With the exception of the sea - but Slovakia hides underground sea in the form of countless healing thermal and mineral springs. There are high mountains and broad lowlands, wetlands and desert, abundant sources of water in the form of rivers, waterfalls and lakes. Our 1000-year-old cultural heritage can be seen in the medieval towns, romantic castles and ruins, magnificent manor houses, archeological sites, varied folk architecture, surviving folk traditions and living folklore. There are cities with modern architecture and a modern lifestyle here, but also captivating spots over which a spell seems to have been cast, as they are still unaffected by human civilisation. You can experience the rapidly alternating images of the country as well. All you have to do is travel approximately 450 kilometres, the length of Slovakia from the west to the east.

Best of Slovakia Tour

Guaranteed departures for the minimum of 2 persons from May to October - 5 days/4 nights

Route: Bratislava - Banská Štiavnica - Levoča

Note: tour with half board/full board on request

arrival to/departure from Vienna, Budapest, Krakow and Bratislava airport recommended

Itinerary:

Day 1 MONDAY

- Arrival to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia
- Accommodation
- Free time

Overnight in Bratislava

Day 2 TUESDAY

- Walking sightseeing tour in Bratislava Old town with visit to the St Martin's Cathedral - Bratislava's biggest, oldest, and most spectacular church
- Afternoon visit the Devin castle which is part of the oldest history of Slovakia
- Transport to Banská Štiavnica UNESCO town
- Accommodation

Overnight in Banská Štiavnica

Day 3 WEDNESDAY

- Morning sightseeing tour of Banská Štiavnica UNESCO town - one of the most beautiful and in historical terms one of the most interesting towns in Slovakia
- After lunch, transport to Levoča town; on the way stop in Hronsek village and visit to the wooden articulated church from 1726, and in Vlkolínec UNESCO village - a monument reserve of folk architecture
- Evening arrival to Levoča town
- Accommodation

Overnight in Levoča

Day 4 THURSDAY

- Sightseeing tour of Levoča and visit to the Roman-Catholic St. James Church from 14th century with its 18.6 m tall Late Gothic main altar - the tallest of its kind in the world
- Afternoon continue to Spišské Podhradie and Spišská Kapitula, also referred to as the 'Slovak Vatican', where the famous Spiš castle and the Late-Romanesque St. Martin's Cathedral are located

Overnight in Levoča

Day 5 FRIDAY

- Half day trip in the Tatra National Park, where are possible several activities:
 1. Walking around glacial lakes Popradské pleso and Štrbské pleso - the relief in their territory has been modeled by glaciers that created glacier valleys with high-mountain lakes
 2. Trip to Lomnický peak by cable car is among the most attractive adventures for tourists in the High Tatras and, indeed, it enjoys the popularity of the public. It reaches the differential height of 1,700 m and carries tourists to a height of 2,634 m above sea level in only a few minutes
 3. Visit of the Belianska cave - the only one accessible to public in the Tatras and situated in the slope of the Belianské Tatry Mts. above the commune Tatranská Kotlina. It is among the first caves in Europe in which electric light was installed
 4. Easy hiking to Tatra waterfalls
- Afternoon transport to the airport
- Farewell and departure for home

Tour includes:

- Standard accommodation:

1 night in hotel Apartment Residence*** or similar, Bratislava

1 night in pension Kachelman*** or similar, Banská Štiavnica

2 nights in hotel Arkada*** or similar, Levoča

- Breakfast

- Tour guide services

- Air-conditioned transportation throughout the tour (bus, minibus, or private car, depending on the number of people booked)

- Walking tours of the cities Bratislava, Banská Štiavnica, Levoča

- Excursions to proposed sights



SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Grand Tour of Slovakia

Extended tour of Best of Slovakia tour, providing deeper insight into Slovakia presented as the most diverse cultural and historical European region in such a small area.

Guaranteed departures for the minimum of 2 persons from May to October - 11 days/10 nights

Route: Bratislava - Banská Štiavnica - Košice - Bardejov - Levoča - Banská Bystrica - Bratislava

Note: tour with half board/full board on request

arrival to/departure from Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava airport recommended

Itinerary:

Day 1 MONDAY

- Arrival to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia
- Accommodation
- Free time

Overnight in Bratislava

Day 2 TUESDAY

- Walking sightseeing tour in Bratislava Old town with visit to the St. Martin's Cathedral - Bratislava's biggest, oldest, and most spectacular church
- Afternoon visit the Devin castle, which is part of the oldest history of Slovakia

Overnight in Bratislava

Optional: the Červený Kameň castle, wine tasting with dinner in Malokarpatská winegrowing region

Day 3 WEDNESDAY

- Departure for Banská Štiavnica UNESCO town - one of the most beautiful and in historical terms one of the most interesting towns in Slovakia; walking sightseeing tour.
- Accommodation

Overnight in Banská Štiavnica

Optional: lunch/dinner and tour of the local brewery with beer tasting, visit to the Manor house in Svätý Anton

Day 4 THURSDAY

- Departure for Košice - the second largest city of Slovakia, afternoon arrival to Košice
- On the way stop in Dobšinská Ice cave
- Accommodation
- Free time

Overnight in Košice



Day 5 FRIDAY

- Morning sightseeing in Košice town with visit of the St. Elisabeth Cathedral - the largest church of Slovakia and the easternmost situated Gothic cathedral of western type in Europe
- Afternoon transport to Bardejov town; on the way stop in Hervartov village and visit to the oldest and best preserved wooden church in Slovakia
- Accommodation

Overnight in Bardejov

Day 6 SATURDAY

- Sightseeing tour of Bardejov UNESCO - the most Gothic town in Slovakia, with visit to the Museum of Popular Architecture and the Roman-Catholic Basilica of St. Egidius
- Afternoon transport to another UNESCO town of Levoča
- Accommodation

Overnight in Levoča

Day 7 SUNDAY

- Sightseeing tour of Levoča and visit to the Roman-Catholic St. Jacob Church from 14th century with its 18.6 m tall Late Gothic main altar - the tallest of its kind in the world
- Afternoon continue to Spišské Podhradie and Spišská Kapitula, also referred to as the 'Slovak Vatican', where the famous Spiš castle and the Late-Romanesque St. Martin's Cathedral are located

Overnight in Levoča

Optional: the Roman-Catholic Holy Spirit Church in Žehra

Day 8 MONDAY

- Full day trip in the Tatra National Park, where are possible several activities:
 1. Walking around glacial lakes Popradské pleso and Štrbské pleso - the relief in their territory has been modeled by glaciers that created glacier valleys with high-mountain lakes.
 2. Trip to Lomnický peak by cable car is among the most attractive adventures for tourists in the High Tatras and, indeed, it enjoys the popularity of the public. It reaches the differential height of 1,700 m and carries tourists to a height of 2,634 m above sea level in only a few minutes
 3. Visit of the Belianska cave - the only one accessible to public in the Tatras and situated in the slope of the Belianské Tatry

Mts. above the commune Tatranská Kotlina. It is among the first caves in Europe in which electric light was installed.

4. Easy hiking to Tatra waterfalls.

Overnight in Levoča

Day 9 TUESDAY

- Transport to Banská Bystrica town, on the way stop in Oravský Podzámok village and visit to the Orava castle
- Continue to Banská Bystrica town, stop in Vlkolínec UNESCO village - a monument reserve of folk architecture
- Accommodation

Overnight in Banská Bystrica

Day 10 WEDNESDAY

- Morning sightseeing in Banská Bystrica town with visit to Thurzo's house - the most beautiful building of the southern row of the square and the seat of Museum of Central Slovakia
- Departure for Bratislava, on the way stop in Hronsek village and visit to the wooden articulated church from 1726
- Arrival to Bratislava
- Accommodation

Overnight in Bratislava

Day 11 THURSDAY

- End of the tour
- Farewell and departure for home

Tour includes:

- First-class or standard accommodation:
 - 3 nights in hotel Crowne Plaza**** or similar, Bratislava
 - 1 night in pension Kachelman*** or similar, Banská Štiavnica
 - 1 night in hotel Golden Royal**** or similar, Košice
 - 1 night in hotel Bellevue*** or similar, Bardejov
 - 3 nights in hotel Stela**** or similar, Levoča
 - 1 night in hotel Kuria*** or similar, Banská Bystrica
- Breakfast
- Tour guide services
- Air-conditioned transportation throughout the tour (bus, minibus, or private car, depending on the number of people booked)
- Walking tours of the cities Bratislava, Banská Štiavnica, Košice, Bardejov, Levoča, Banská Bystrica
- Excursions to proposed sights

SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Slovakia UNESCO World Heritage Tour

Guaranteed departures for the minimum of 2 persons from May to October - 10 days/9 nights

Route: Banská Štiavnica - Levoča - Bardejov - Snina - Košice

Note: tour with half board/full board on request

arrival to/departure from Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava airport recommended

Itinerary:

Day 1 MONDAY

- Arrival to Slovakia, transport to Banská Štiavnica town
- Accommodation
- Free time

Overnight in Banská Štiavnica

Day 2 TUESDAY

- Morning sightseeing tour in mediaval mining town of Banská Štiavnica, which along with the historic technical structures existing in its environs is the biggest Slovak locality inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List
- Afternoon visit to the most significant technical monuments associated with mining as the Open air minig museum and water reservoirs called 'tajchy', which constitute an essential part of the original water managing system.

Overnight in Banská Štiavnica

Day 3 WEDNESDAY

- Transport to Levoča town; on the way 2 stops:
- The wooden articulated church in Hronsek village from 1726, which was along with seven wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area included in the UNESCO World Heritage List
- The Monument Reserve of Folk Architecture Vlkolínec - the only complete and simultaneously independent settlement in Slovakia that has been inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage

Overnight in Levoča

Day 4 THURSDAY

- Sightseeing tour of Levoča and visit the Roman-Catholic St. Jacob Church from 14th century with its 18.6 m tall Late Gothic main altar - the tallest of its kind in the world
- Afternoon visit the Spiš Castle and the monuments in village Spišské Podhradie, Spišská Kapitula and Žehra which represent a remarkable set of structures of military, political and ecclesiastical nature that were normal for medieval Europe but few of them have been preserved in such a complete and good

state. In June 2009, the Committee for World Heritage decided that this locality would be expanded to the town of Levoča with the artistic work of Master Pavol. This expansion includes the fortified town founded in the 13th century.

Overnight in Levoča

Day 5 FRIDAY

- Morning transport to Bardejov town - the most Gothic town in Slovakia. On the way stop in Hervartov village and visit to the Roman Catholic wooden church of St. Francis of Assisi built in 15th century - the oldest and best preserved wooden church in Slovakia.
- Afternoon sightseeing in Bardejov town, one of the oldest Slovak towns, rightly awarded the European award, gold medal of ICOMOS Foundation of UNESCO in 1986 was inscribed into the List of the World Cultural Heritage of the same organisation in 2000. Sightseeing includes visit to the Roman-Catholic Basilica of St. Egidius with an interesting set of 11 Late Gothic altars from the 15th and the 16th centuries, some of those wood carvings are considered to be supreme works of European art.

Overnight in Bardejov

Day 6 SATURDAY

- Transport to Snina town; on the way two stops in villages Ladomirová and Bodružal. Both churches belong to seven wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area, which were included on the UNESCO World Heritage List and they are Greek Catholic.

Overnight in Snina

Day 7 SUNDAY

- Day trip in the Poloniny National Park - the easternmost Slovak national park. It contains original extensive beech and fir-beech forest and the primeval forests of Stužica, Rožok and Havešová, which were put on the UNESCO list of World Natural Heritage in 2007. It is situated at the point where three frontiers meet: Slovak, Polish and Ukrainian. Almost 80 %

of the forest area consists of rounded ridges and waterlogged valleys.

Day 8 MONDAY

- Transport to Košice city; on the way stop in Ruská Bystrá village and visit the Greek Catholic wooden Church of the relics of St. Nicholas the Bishop. Its interior in the Baroque and Rococo style is from the beginning of the 18th century.

- Afternoon arrival to Košice town

- Accommodation

Overnight in Košice

Optional: wine tasting in the smallest Slovak viticultural region Tokaj

Day 9 TUESDAY

- The last day of the tour we will end by exploring the unique natural heritage of Slovakia represented by caves and abysses of Slovenský kras (Slovak karst) and we will visit Dobšinská ľadová jaskyňa (Dobšinská Ice cave)

Overnight in Košice

Day 10 WEDNESDAY

- End of the tour, Farewell and departure for home

Tour includes:

- First-class or standard accommodation

2 nights in pension Kachelman*** or similar, Banská Štiavnica

2 nights in hotel Stela**** or similar, Levoča

1 night in hotel Bellevue*** or similar, Bardejov

2 nights in Eurohotel Vihorlat***, Snina

2 nights in hotel Golden Royal**** or similar, Košice

- Breakfast

- Tour guide services

- Air-conditioned transportation throughout the tour (bus, minibus, or private car, depending on the number of people booked)

- Walking tours of the towns Banská Štiavnica, Košice, Bardejov, Levoča

- Excursions to proposed sights



SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Tour of Wooden Churches of the Carpathian Mountains

Wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area, which were added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 2008, possess an extraordinary worldwide value. The churches include: Roman Catholic churches in Hervartov and Tvrdošín, Evangelical articular churches in Kežmarok, Leštiny and Hronsek, and churches of Eastern rite in Bodružal, Ladomirová and Ruská Bystrá. While discovering Wooden churches of the Slovak part of Carpathian Mountain Area, we will visit many interesting places which are on the way of this tour - Open air museum of folk architecture in Vlkolínec, the Orava Castle, Museum of the Orava village in Zuberec, towns Kežmarok, Bardejov and Košice.

Guaranteed departures for the minimum of 2 persons from May to October - 7 days/6 nights

Route: Zvolen - Tvrdošín - Kežmarok - Bardejov - Snina - Košice

Note: tour with half board/full board on request

arrival to/departure from Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava airport recommended

Itinerary:

Day 1 MONDAY

- Arrival to Slovakia, transport to Zvolen town
- Accommodation
- Free time

Overnight in Zvolen

Day 2 TUESDAY

- Morning transport to Hronsek village and visit to first wooden church of the trip - the wooden articulated church from 1726, set in the wonderful environment of big lime trees.
- The second visit will be in Leštiny village to its wooden articulated Evangelical church from 1688. You will be impressed especially by the main altar from the beginning of the 18th century, church pews with coats of arms and renaissance baptistry of the 17th century.

Overnight in Tvrdošín

Optional: the Open air museum of folk architecture in UNESCO village Vlkolínec, the Orava Castle in Oravský Podzámok

Day 3 WEDNESDAY

- Morning visit to the Open air museum of folk architecture in Zuberec which represents typical folk buildings moved here from various regions of Orava and the Gothic wooden Roman-Catholic church of All Saints in Tvrdošín.
- Transport to Kežmarok town, where articulated Evangelical church is situated. The church is admired mostly for its organ with wooden pipes.

Overnight in Kežmarok

Optional: the castle of Kežmarok

Day 4 THURSDAY

- Morning transport to Bardejov town; on the way stop in Hervartov village and visit to the Roman Catholic wooden church of St Francis of Assisi, built by the end of the 15th century (probably between 1499 and 1500). It is the oldest and best preserved wooden church in Slovakia.
- Afternoon sightseeing in Bardejov town - the most Gothic town in Slovakia inscribed into the List of the World Cultural Heritage

Overnight in Bardejov

Day 5 FRIDAY

- Visit to two churches of Eastern rite in villages Ladomirová - the Greek Catholic wooden church of St. Michael the Archangel built in 1742, and Bodružal - the Greek Catholic wooden church of St. Nicolas from 1658

Overnight in Snina

Optional: Museum of Ukrainian Culture in Svidník (an ethnic institution whose mission resides in documenting the fundamental phases of cultural, historical, political and social development of Ruthenians - Ukrainians in Slovakia from earliest times up to the present)

Day 6 SATURDAY

- Visit to last 4 churches of Eastern rite in Topoľa, Ruský Potok, Uličské Krivé and Ruská Bystrá, located close to Ukrainian border
- Afternoon drive to second biggest city of Slovakia, Košice

Overnight in Košice

Day 7 SUNDAY

- End of the tour, Farewell and departure for home

Tour includes:

- First-class or standard accommodation:

1 night in hotel Poľana*** or similar, Zvolen

1 night in hotel Arman*** or similar, Orava

1 night in hotel Hviezdoslav*** or similar, Kežmarok

1 night in hotel Bellevue*** or similar, Bardejov

1 night in Eurohotel Vihorlat***, Snina

1 night in hotel Golden Royal**** or similar, Košice

- Breakfast

- Tour guide services

- Air-conditioned transportation throughout the tour (bus, minibus, or private car, depending on the number of people booked)

- Walking tour of the Bardejov town

- Excursions to proposed sights



TAILOR MADE TOURS

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We are ready to work out for you the itinerary which would include visit of 3 capitals in Central Europe - Prague, Vienna and Budapest and one former royal town Krakow.



